

Parametric Transforms

Definition of a parametric transform

A transform, $t(a,x)$ is a parametric transform if:

$$\begin{aligned}t(0,x) &= x; \\t(a, t(b,x)) &= t(a+b, x)\end{aligned}$$

The inverse transform is given by

$$t_{inv}(a,x) = t(a_{inv},x)$$

Consequently

$$\begin{aligned}t_{inv}(a, t_{inv}(a,x)) &= x \\t(a_{inv}, t_{inv}(a,x)) &= t(a_{inv}+a, x) = t(0,x) \\a_{inv} &= -a, \text{ and} \\t_{inv}(a,x) &= t(-a,x)\end{aligned}$$

For example, consider the transform, $g(a,x) = x^{(k^a)}$, where k is a scalar and $^$ is exponentiation. It follows that $g(a,x)$ is a parametric transform, since

$$\begin{aligned}g(0,x) &= x^{(k^0)} = x^{(1)} = x \\g(a, g(b,x)) &= (x^{(k^b)})^{(k^a)} = x^{(k^{(a+b)})} = g(a+b, x)\end{aligned}$$

Distortion

If $t(a,x)$ is a polynomial of degree n , then $t(a, t(b,x))$, is of degree $2n$. Therefore $t(a+b, x)$ is not well defined. However, suppose that higher order polynomial terms are unwanted distortions. That is, we seek a solution

$$\begin{aligned}t(a, t(b,x)) &= t(a+b, x) + d(a,b,x), \text{ where } d \text{ is sufficiently small. or equivalently,} \\t(a, t(b,x)) &\approx t(a+b, x)\end{aligned}$$

The sense of this approximation is that the composite transform is a “best approximation” without generating higher order distortions.

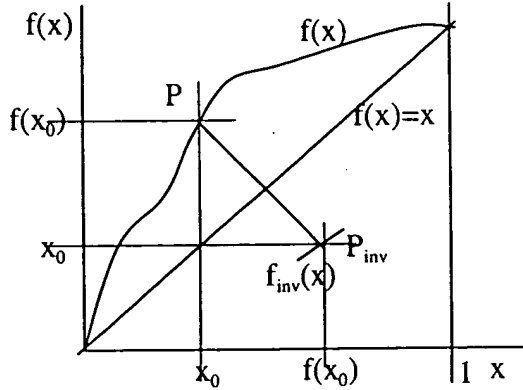
However, we want to keep the exact solution $t_{inv}(a,x) = t(-a,x)$. So the requirements for a parametric transform are

$$\begin{aligned}t(0,x) &= x; \\t_{inv}(a,x) &= t(-a,x) \\t(a, t(b,x)) &\approx t(a+b, x), \text{ a sufficiently good approximation}\end{aligned}$$

General derivation of parametric transforms

It will now be shown that a parametric transform can be calculated from any transform whose inverse exists. For convenience the function $f(x)$ has values $f(0)=0$, and $f(1)=1$.

The following figure shows such a function defined over interval $(0,1)$



Choose a point, $P = (x_0, f(x_0))$, on the curve $f(x)$. Then the point, $P_{inv} = (f(x_0), x_0)$ is on the curve $f_{inv}(x)$. A straight line can be drawn through the points, P and P_{inv} . This line can be written parametrically as

$$((1+a)x_0 + (1-a)f(x_0), (1-a)x_0 + (1+a)f(x_0))/2$$

Note that

$a=0$ gives the point $(x_0 + f(x_0), x_0 + f(x_0))/2$ which lies on the line $f(x) = x$

$a=1$ gives the point $(x_0, f(x_0)) = P$

$a=-1$ gives the point $(f(x_0), x_0) = P_{inv}$

We now generalize this result to all points. Since PP_{inv} is perpendicular to the line $f(x) = x$ then a 45° axis rotation reduces the parametric variation to a single dimension. Namely

$$u = (x + f(x))/\sqrt{2}$$

$$g(u) = (f(x) - x)/\sqrt{2}$$

Substituting and rearranging terms gives the convenient form

$$f(x) = u\sqrt{2} - x$$

$$g(u) = u - x\sqrt{2}$$

By substitution

$$g((f(x) + x)/\sqrt{2}) = (f(x) - x)/\sqrt{2}, \text{ and}$$

$$f((u - g(u))/\sqrt{2}) = (u + g(u))/\sqrt{2}$$

The first of these equations can generate the function g from $(x, f(x))$ pairs, and the second equation can generate the function f from $(u, g(u))$ pairs.

We introduce a parameter $a = (-1, 1)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} ag(u) &= u - x\sqrt{2} \\ t(a, x) &= u\sqrt{2} - x \end{aligned}$$

The corresponding generator function is

$$t(a, (u - ag(u))/\sqrt{2}) = (u + ag(u))/\sqrt{2}$$

We now show that $t(a, x)$ is a parametric transform. Firstly

$$\begin{aligned} u &= x\sqrt{2}, \text{ for } a=0, \text{ thus} \\ t(0, x) &= u\sqrt{2} - x = (x\sqrt{2})\sqrt{2} - x = x \end{aligned}$$

Secondly

$$t(-a, t(a, (u - ag(u))/\sqrt{2})) = t(-a, (u + ag(u))/\sqrt{2}) = (u - ag(u))/\sqrt{2}$$

thus, by inspection,

$$t(-a, t(a, x)) = x, \text{ so } t(-a, x) \text{ is } t_{\text{inv}}(a, x)$$

Example derivation

For this example we assert the value of $g(u)$ and derive the corresponding $f(x)$

$$g(u) = au(1 - u/\sqrt{2})/\sqrt{2}$$

$$f(x) = (a(1-x) - \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{(2 + a^2 - a^2\sqrt{2} + 4ax\sqrt{2})})/a$$

These equations, along with $f(x)=x$, are shown in the following graphs for $a=1$.

